

THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 1. A snowboard boot strap anchor comprising:
 a raised portion having at least three mounting locations; and
 a thin base portion associated with the raised portion for attachment to an upper
 portion of the snowboard boot.
- 10 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the strap anchor is a unitary member.
3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least a portion of the strap anchor is made of at
 least one of a plastic, rubber, a composite material or metal material.
- 15 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least one mounting location includes a sleeve for
 receiving a fastener device.
5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein at least one mounting location includes a means for
 receiving a tool-less fastener device.
- 20 6. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the raised portion has a height that is equal to at
 least seventy-five percent of the combined thickness of at least two straps of a strap
 arrangement.
- 25 7. A snowboard boot strap mounting system comprising:
 a first strap anchor having a raised portion containing at least three mounting
 locations, the strap anchor including a base portion for attachment to a snowboard boot
 upper;
 an ankle strap arrangement having a first distal end for attachment to the first strap
30 anchor; and

a fastener device for connecting the first distal end of the ankle strap arrangement to the first strap anchor by mating with a selected mounting location.

8. The system of claim 7 wherein the first strap anchor is attached to the medial side of the snowboard boot upper and a second distal end of the strap arrangement is connected to the lateral side of the snowboard boot upper.

9 The system of claim 7 further comprising a second strap anchor having at least three mounting locations and a base portion for attachment to the snowboard boot upper.

10. The system of claim 9 wherein the second strap anchor is attached to the lateral side of the snowboard boot upper and a second distal end of the strap arrangement is configured for attachment to a selected mounting location of the second strap anchor.

11. The system of claim 7 wherein at least one mounting location includes a sleeve for receiving a fastener device.

12. The system of claim 7 wherein at least one mounting location includes a means for receiving a tool-less fastener device.

13. The system of claim 7 wherein the first strap anchor raised portion has a height that is equal to at least seventy-five percent of the combined thickness of at least two straps of the ankle strap arrangement.

14. A snowboard boot comprising:
an outsole;
an upper connected to the outsole;
an ankle strap arranged to overlie the upper and having first and second distal ends attached to first and second attachment locations, the ankle strap having an adjustable length;
and

at least one strap anchor that includes a raised portion containing at least three mounting locations and a thin base portion, the strap anchor affixed to the boot upper in at least one of the first and second attachment locations;

wherein at least one of the distal ends of the ankle strap is removably mounted to a selected mounting location of the strap anchor.

15. The snowboard boot of claim 14 further comprising a fastener device for connecting the first distal end of the ankle strap arrangement to the strap anchor by mating with a selected mounting location.

16. The snowboard boot of claim 14 further comprising a second strap anchor having at least three mounting locations and a base portion attached to the other of the first and second attachment locations.

17. The snowboard boot of claim 14 wherein at least one mounting location includes a sleeve for receiving a fastener device.

18. The snowboard boot of claim 14 wherein at least one mounting location includes a means for receiving a tool-less fastener device.

19. The snowboard boot of claim 14 wherein the strap anchor raised portion has a height that is equal to at least seventy-five percent of the combined thickness of at least two straps of the ankle strap arrangement.